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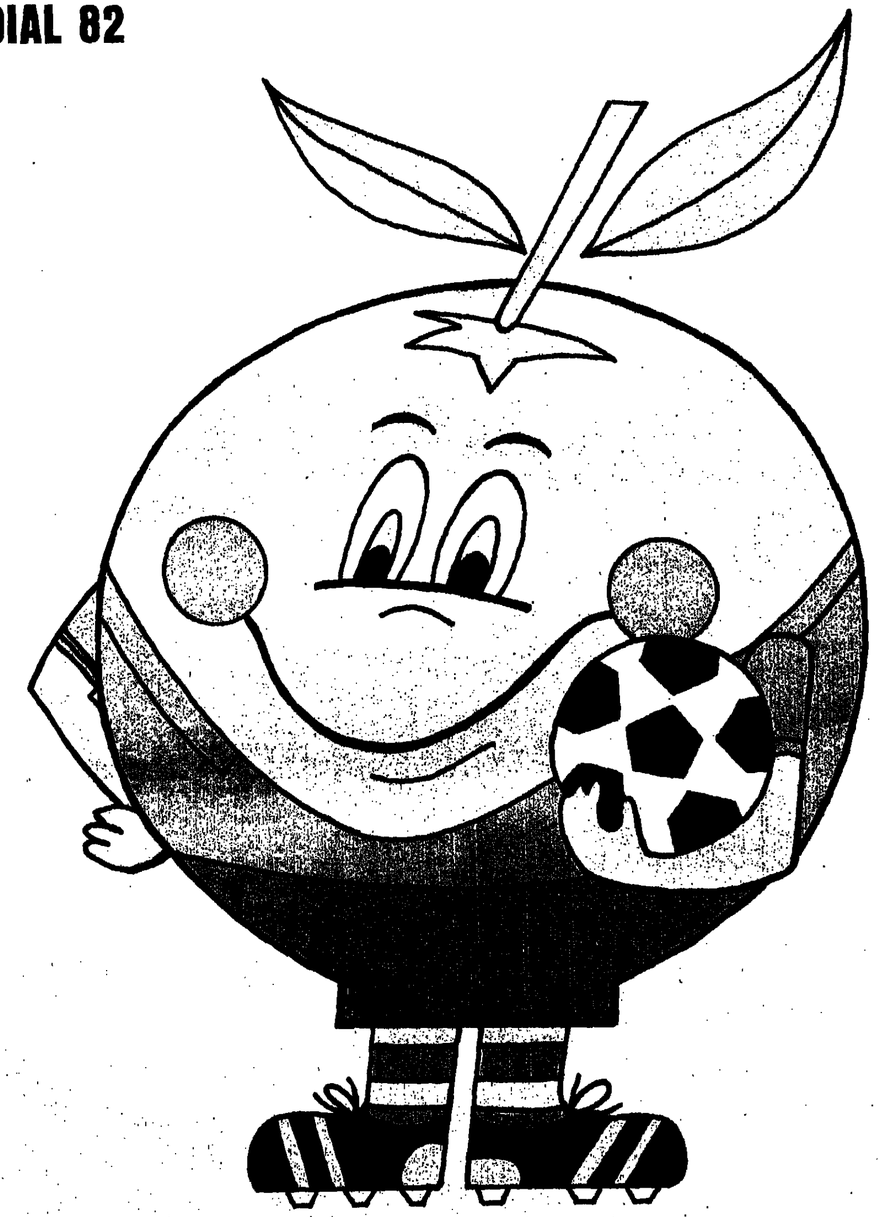
THE JERUSALEM **POST** Supplement

June 13—July 11, 1982

The World Cup

MUNDIAL 82



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Naranjito

Steven Kettle

MADRID (UPI). — In Spain's department stores, novelty stalls and souvenir shops, a figure representing an orange dressed as a soccer player beams out from hundreds of items on sale. This is the official mascot of the World Cup, Naranjito.

Well he might smile. The small benign mascot. A Seville orange dressed in Spain's national team colours and carrying a soccer ball under his arm has been spearheading the commercial exploitation of the World Cup in a campaign that could turn over more than $150 million worldwide.

The range of "Naranjito" products available goes from the expected tee-shirts, soccer equipment, and all manner of small souvenirs to items less readily associated with the celebration of a major sporting event, such as air fresheners, bikinis and even a spherical, Naranjito-shaped version of the recently popular cube puzzles.

Around 450 manufacturers around the world, nearly half of then in Spain, have bought licenses to use Naranjito on their goods. Their keenness to jump on the World Cup commercial bandwagon ensured the Spanish soccer federation, owners of the copyright and trademark of Naranjito, guaranteed income of several million dollars.

Making money out of marketing mascots and symbols to accompany World Cup tournaments first took off in 1966 when "World Cup Willie," a lion dressed in a Union Jack waistcoat. Mexico in 1970 had "Juanito," a child footballer wearing a sombrero and West Germany four years later also had its mascot — "Tip and Tap."

In 1978, a little Gaucho figure symbolized the finals in Argentina and proved a commercial success. So much so that the merchandizing rights to the following World Cup, this year's competition, and to Naranjito were quickly bought for $14.5m.

Naranjito, the winning design, was chosen because, according to the jury which selected him, he represented everything Spanish: colour, sunshine, light, happiness and fun.

Equally significantly, he was created by two Spanish graphic artists working for an advertising agency and thus with a practised eye towards commercial potential.. The local soccer federation could be confident it had picked a moneyspinner.

There are "pirate" manufacturers who want to cash in on the World Cup bandwagon and have used the symbol and mascot without due payment. At least two large multinational companies have also "borrowed" the designs and used them on products without authorization, either wittingly or as the result of a misunderstanding.

But Naranjito is a tightly-protected registered design, and any attempt to use it without permission — except in remote areas where a breach of trademark is not worth pursuing — is taken up and quickly squashed by the licensors, eager to squeeze the maximum possible profit out of the little orange.

THE COVER
The figure on the cover is Naranjito

Cup full of folklore

Robert Philip

THE WORLD CUP was the brainchild of Frenchman Jules Rimet, after whom the original trophy was named, the president of FIFA from 1920-54.

That solid gold trophy is now in the permanent possession of Brazil, winners in 1958-62-70, and the 1982 finalists will be battling for what is simply named the FIFA World Cup, currently held by Argentina.

Spain will host the 12th World Cup. The previous 11 finals are rich in the folklore of football:

1930 — Just 13 nations decided to enter the inaugural World Cup, won by hosts Uruguay. The four European entrants, Belgium, Rumania, Yugoslavia and France travelled to South America on the same boat — the journey took two weeks — and thoughtfully called into Rio De Janeiro to pick up the Brazilians.

On Sunday July 13, 1930 France and Mexico had the honour of playing the first ever World Cup tie, the French winning 4-1. But it was the final on July 30 between Uruguay, 1924 and 1928 Olympic champions, and near-neighbours Argentina which assured the World Cup of a place on the soccer calendar.

Although 10 special boats set sail from Buenos Aires, thousands of fanatical fans were left behind on the quayside. There was not a British supporter in sight but fans were searched for weapons on arrival and frisked again before entering the centenary stadium.

Inside the ground the atmosphere was electric with the sound of firecrackers and rockets drowning out the 90,000 frenzied fans.

A dispute over the match ball — both sides had insisted they use one of native manufacture — was settled by Belgian referee John Langenus, who carried a ball under each arm on to the pitch.

Argentina won the toss for the choice of ball and Uruguay won the cup, designed by French sculptor Abel Lafleur, with a thrilling 4-2 win.

The Uruguyan embassy in Buenos Aires was stoned the next day but the World Cup was off and running.

1934 — For the only time the holders refused to defend the trophy and again the hosts, this time Italy, triumphed in a 17-team knockout tournament — much to the delight of Benito Mussolini.

The modern format of preliminary groups has its critics but Argentina and Brazil were none too happy about travelling 8,000 miles only to set off for home again after 90 minutes of action.

Italy and Czechoslovakia battled through the the final played in front of 55,000 fans in Rome. The Czechs took the lead in the 70th minute through Puc but Italy grabbed an equaliser eight minutes from time when Raimondo Orsi — one of three Argentines in the side — ran through to score with a lob which curled freakishly over goalkeeper Planicka.

The hosts proved the stronger in extra time and Schiavio netted in the 97th minute to make Italy champions of the world.

1938 — Critics had claimed Italy would not have won in 1934 if they had played on foreign soil. The Italians silenced the doubters four years later. But politics kept a number of top sides from competing.

Italy beat Hungary 4-2 in an undistinguished final and the trophy was to remain in Europe for 12 years.

1950 — Against all the odds, Uruguay became champions for the second time when they beat hosts Brazil in the final that was not a final.

Uruguay, Spain, Sweden and Brazil qualified to meet in a mini-league play-off and Brazil, with their devastating front three of Zizinho, Ademir and Jair were hot favourites after beating the two Europeans.

Brazil needed just a draw to lift the cup but the Uruguyans won 2-1 to join Italy as double winners.

If Uruguay's victory over Brazil in 1950 was a surprise, the events of 1954 were nothing short of sensational.

Hungary arrived in Switzerland for the finals with one of the most dazzling football teams ever assembled, including Puskas, Bozsik, Kocsis and Hidegkuti.

They were the reigning Olympic champions, were unbeaten in their last 28 internationals and had hammered England 6-3 at Wembley and 7-1 in Budapest.

Everything went according to the script in the early stages. Korea were annihilated 9-0 and West Germany were despatched 8-3.

Things, however, started to go awry in the quarter-finals when the usually well-disciplined Hungarians and Brazil staged the infamous "Battle of Berne." Bozsik, and Brazilians Nilton Santos and Tozzi were sent off and the fighting continued in the dressing room after the match.

Despite their earlier humiliation, West Germany battled through to join Hungary in the final. But they looked to be heading for an equally embarrassing afternoon when Hungary raced into a two-goal lead within seven minutes through Puskas and Czibor.

Then in an astonishing turnaround, West Germany went on to win 3-2, winger Helmut Rahn emerging as the hero of the hour with two goals.

1958 — Brazil finally won the trophy in Sweden and gave the world its first glimpse of a 17-year-old phenomenon called Pele. He burst on the scene in the quarter-finals when he scored the only goal against Wales, followed that up with a hat-trick in the 5-2 defeat of France in the next round and added two more against Sweden in the final, which also ended 5-2.

Although Frenchman Juste Fontaine scored 13 goals in the finals, a record which still stands, Pele was the king and would reign, on and off, for another 12 years.

1962 — Chile staged the tournament despite a series of earthquakes and the hosts surprised everyone, including themselves, by finishing third.

Brazil triumphed again, but without Pele this time. The great man scored in the opening game against Mexico but limped out of the competition when he tore a muscle in the second match against Czechoslovakia.

The Czechs, inspired by their legendary halfback line (they still had such things in those days) of Pluskal, Masopust and Popluhar also battled through to the final, their second appearance.

As against Italy in 1934, the Czechoslovaks took the lead but were let down by an uncharacteristic display from goalkeeper Schroiff. He was out of position when Amarildo, Pele's replacement, equalised from an acute angle and was at fault when Brazil went 3-1 ahead, losing sight of the ball in the sun and allowing Vava a simple chance.

1966 — England won an undistinguished tournament under the shrewd guidance of Alf Ramsey. Brazil's hopes of completing a hat-trick disappeared in the first game against Bulgaria when Pele was bruised and battered.

England's cause was undoubtedly helped by being allowed to play their games at Wembley but they did have three players of genuine world class — goalkeeper Gordon Banks, defender Bobby Moore and deep-lying centre forward Bobby Charlton.

Fittingly, the final against West Germany was one of the better games. England won 4-2 in extra time with a hat trick from Geoff Hurst.

1970 — Despite vowing never to play in the World Cup again, Pele was back in Mexico and Brazil won the original Jules Rimet trophy outright by becoming champions for the third time.

The Brazilian side of 1970 has caused endless arguments — was it better than the one of 1958? Clodoaldo, Gerson and Rivelino were a midfield dream and Pele was ably abetted up front by Tostao and Jairzinho, who scored in every match.

FOR THE THIRD successive time the side which took the lead lost. Roberto Boninsegna shot Italy ahead — Pele, Gerson, Jairzinho and Carlos Alberto replying for Brazil.

1974 — Hosts West Germany won the new FIFA World Cup but the Netherlands, the beaten finalists, were the entertainers.

The Dutch were a delight to watch and if Pele was no longer around to thrill the fans, there was always Johan Cruyff.

The Dutch ignored the jinx which had struck Czechoslovakia, West Germany and Italy in the three previous finals and went ahead soon after the start when Johan Neeskens scored from a penalty after Cruyff had been brought down by Uli Hoeness.

For the next 30 minutes the Dutch bewildered their opponents with some sparkling moves. But the goal came at the other end, Paul Breitner netting from the spot after he had been pulled down as he weaved in on goal.

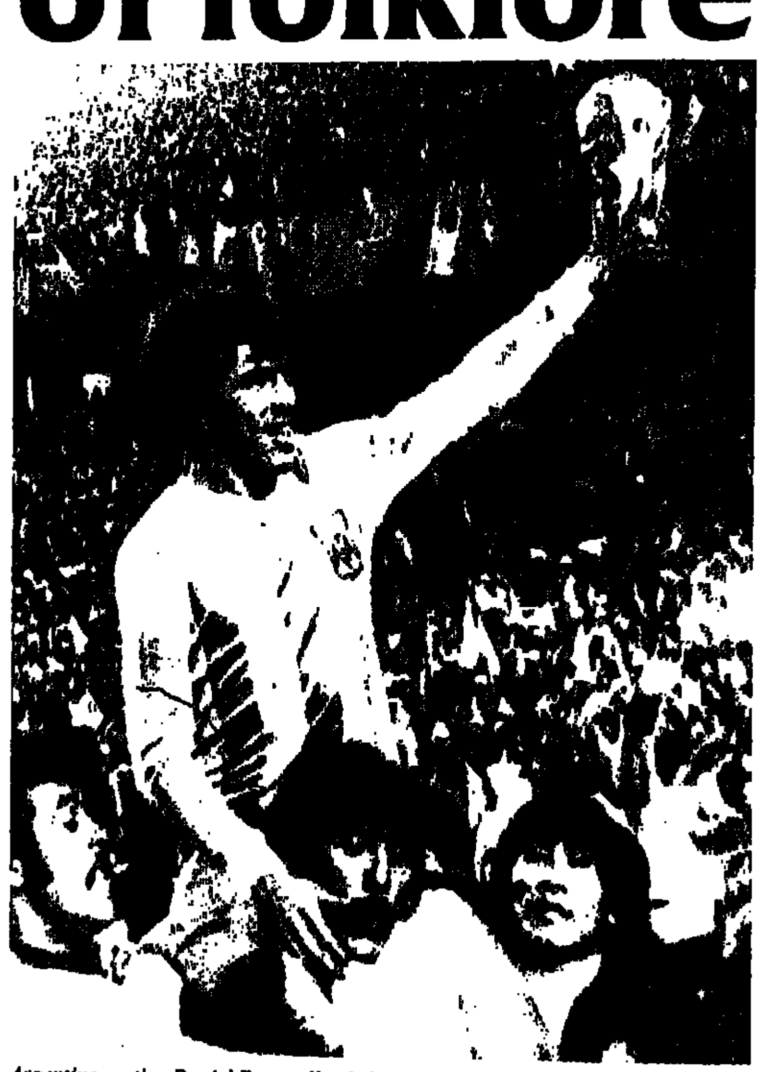
Two minutes from the interval the peerless Gerd Mueller scored his 68th — and most vital — international goal and West Germany were champions of the world for the second time.

1978 — Again the Dutch were arguably the best side in the tournament, even without Cruyff who had refused to take part. Again they had to be content with runners-up medals after going down 3-1 to hosts Argentina in extra time.

Mario Kempes shot the Argentines ahead and that "first goal jinx" looked ominous for the hosts when Dick Nanninga equalised and the Dutch dominated until the end of 90 minutes.

But Argentina moved up a gear in extra time, Kempes scored a superb second and Daniel Bertoni added a splendid third.

The World Cup Supplement is edited by Philip Gillon and Yael Kenan. Layout by Bernard Berniker.



Argentine captian Daniel Fassarella aloft with the trophy won in Beunos Aires in 1978 after Argentina's 3-1 victory over the luckless Dutch.

Experts prophesy

Paul Kohn

TEL AVIV. — Israel's National team coach Yosef Mirimowitch will be among the thousands of soccer coaches and managers from all over the world who will be in Spain for the World Cup scanning for new styles and techniques that they can take home and try to adapt to their teams.

Mirimowitch will be in Spain throughout the month of matches and plans to travel to venues all over the country. "I regard this as a study tour. Every World Cup produces new soccer ideas, and I shall be looking to adapt some of these to the players we have in Israel," the coach told me before his departure.

"We have to take into consideration that the Israeli players are slower than most, but many make up for that deficiency by their technical excellence. Players like Uri Malmillian and Nissim Cohen have the skill in use of the ball that ranks with the very best. What is missing is physical strength and total commitment that you find among the European professionals," Miromowitch said.

In the coach's opinion Israeli football is closer to the Latin game rather than the best European soccer. He took a close look at the South American game when in the Argentine for the 1978 championships, and he is a frequent visitor at the stadiums of Britain and Western Europe.

"In Spain I shall be watching closely the performances of the less fancied teams, to learn how they adapt their game when facing much stronger opposition. In past championships soccer minnows like North Korea, Belgium (at the time no football giant) and Tunisia have brought off fine results," he said.

Mirimowitch also aims to see the top World Cup teams in their training. "From the preparations between games one can learn as much as from the actual matches," the coach opined.

In line with the wily bookmakers, Mirimowitch rates Brazil and West Germany as the strongest teams in Spain. He fancies Italy and Scotland are dark horses with the best chances for outside success.

Jack Mansell, the former National team coach who will be with Maccabi Haifa next season, also reckons Brazil are the team everyone will have to beat. The Brazilians have again moulded a team of skill and flair, in both defence and attack, Mansell says.

He is less sure of West Germany. "They are extremely confident and methodical, but perhaps too much is expected of them. Hamburg and Bayern Munich were widely expected to win European club titles last season, but were beaten at the post," Mansell points out.

"The USSR squad is highly committed, as are the Argentinians. England too have enough class to reach the advanced stages of the competition. From then on it is a matter of adrenalin, form and also who gets the breaks on the day." Mansell considers that a Latin team is more likely to win the trophy than a Northern or Central European side, simply because the games are being staged in Spain.

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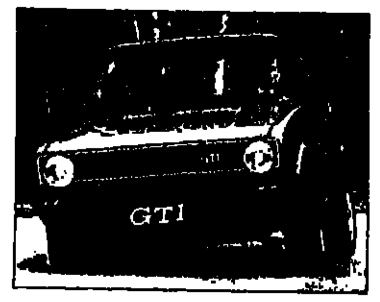

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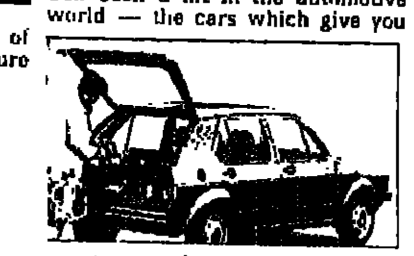

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Your day by day guide to the mundial...

DATES → → MATCHES → → VENUES → → BROADCASTS

Group one
(at La Coruna, Vigo)
Italy
Poland
Peru
Cameroon
(Winner into Group A, runner-up into Group C)

Group two
(at Gijon, Oviedo)
W Germany
Austria
Chile
Algeria
(Winner into Group B, runner-up into Group D)

Group three
(at Elche, Alicante)
Argentina
Belgium
Hungary
El Salvador
(Winner into Group A, runner-up into Group C)

Group four
(at Bilbao, Valladolid)
England
France
Czechoslovakia
Kuwait
(Winner into Group B, runner-up into Group D)

Date	Group & Venue	Teams	Results	Time & Coverage
Sun. 13.6	Group 3 Barcelona	Argentina v Belgium		8.00 ITV, KY JTV, BBC
Mon. 14.6	Group 1 Vigo	Italy v Poland		5.15 JTV
Tues. 15.6	Group 1 Corunna	Peru v Cameroon		5.15 JTV
Wed. 16.6	Group 2 Gijon	West Germany v Algeria		5.15
Thurs. 17.6	Group 2 Oviedo	Chile v Austria		5.15
Fri. 18.6	Group 1 Vigo	Italy v Peru		5.15 JTV
Sat. 19.6	Group 1 Corunna	Poland v Cameroon		5.15 JTV
Sun. 20.6	Group 2 Gijon	West Germany v Chile		5.15 JTV
Mon. 21.6	Group 2 Oviedo	Algeria v Austria		5.15 JTV
Tues. 22.6	Group 1 Corunna	Peru v Poland		5.15
Wed. 23.6	Group 1 Vigo	Italy v Cameroon		5.15 JTV
Thurs. 24.6	Group 2 Oviedo	Algeria v Chile		5.15 JTV
Fri. 25.6	Group 2 Gijon	West Germany v Austria		5.15
—	Group 6 Seville	Brazil v USSR		9.00 ITV, KY JTV
—	Group 3 Elche	Hungary v El Salvador		9.00
—	Group 4 Bilbao	England v France		5.15 ITV, JTV BBC
—	Group 4 Valladolid	Czechoslovakia v Kuwait		5.15 JTV
—	Group 3 Alicante	Argentina v Hungary		9.00 JTV KY
—	Group 3 Elche	Belgium v El Salvador		9.00
—	Group 4 Bilbao	England v Czechoslovakia		5.15 JTV BBC
—	Group 4 Valladolid	France v Kuwait		5.15 JTV
—	Group 3 Elche	Belgium v Hungary		9.00 JTV
—	Group 3 Alicante	El Salvador v Argentina		9.00
—	Group 4 Valladolid	France v Czechoslovakia		5.15 ITV
—	Group 4 Bilbao	Kuwait v England		5.15 JTV

Second phase...second phase...second phase...

Group A — Barcelona (Noucamp)
Winner Group 1.....
Winner Group 3.....
Second Group 6.....

Group B — Madrid
Winner Group 2.....
Winner Group 4.....
Second Group 5.....

Group C — Barcelona (Sarria)
Second Group 1.....
Second Group 3.....
Winner Group 6.....

Group D — Madrid (Calderon)
Second Group 2.....
Second Group 4.....
Winner Group 5.....

Date	Venue	Group		Time	Line-Up
Mon. 28.6	Barcelona	Group	A	9.00	Winner Group 1 vs Winner Group 3
	Madrid	Group	D	5.15	Second Group 2 vs Second Group 4
Tues. 29.6	Madrid	Group	B	9.00	Winner Group 2 vs Winner Group 4
	Barcelona	Group	C	5.15	Second Group 1 vs Second Group 3
Tues. 1.7	Barcelona	Group	A	9.00	Second Group 6 vs Loser 1st match Group A
	Madrid	Group	D	5.15	Winner Group 5 vs Loser 1st match Group D
Fri. 2.7	Madrid	Group	B	9.00	Second Group 5 vs Loser 1st match Group D
	Barcelona	Group	C	5.15	Winner Group 6 vs Loser of 1st match Group C
Sun. 4.7	Barcelona	Group	A	9.00	Second Group 6 vs Winner 1st match Group A
	Madrid	Group	D	5.15	Winner Group 5 vs Winner 1st match Group D
Mon. 5.7	Madrid	Group	B	9.00	Second Group 5 vs Winner 1st match Group B
	Barcelona	Group	C	5.15	Winner Group 6 vs Winner 1st match group C

ITV = Israel Televison
JTV = Jordan Television
KY = Kol Yisrael, Israel Radio, 2nd channel
BBC = BBC World Service radio
All times are Israel time

All Television relays of matches will start five minutes before kick-off. There will be a summary (every night) shortly before midnight of the day's matches.

Israel TV and Jordan TV will carry both matches every day of the second phase of matches and also the semi-finals and the final live.

Israel radio will relay regular World Cup diaries in their normal sport slots during the day (apart from matches covered in full) and there will be a live commentary every evening at 7.45 of the closing minutes of one match.

The BBC will carry a daily round-up from Spain at 11.15 p.m. to be repeated at 7.30 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. the following day. Apart from the matches involving British teams in the first phase, there will also be live commentaries on selected matches by the BBC of second phase games (details to be announced as the tournament progresses) and of the semi-finals and final.

Pele, the greatest

...your day by day guide...

Group five
(at Valencia, Zaragoza)
Spain
Honduras
Yugoslavia
N Ireland
(Winner into Group D, runner-up into Group B)

Group six
(at Seville, Malaga)
Brazil
Soviet Union
Scotland
New Zealand
(Winner into Group B, runner-up into Group A)

Group & Venue	Teams	Results	Time & Coverage	Date
—	—	—	—	Sun. 13.6
—	—	—	—	Mon. 14.6
Group 6 Malaga	New Zealand v Scotland		9.00 JTV	Tues. 15.6
Group 5 Valencia	Spain v Honduras		9.00	Wed. 16.6
Group 5 Zaragoza	Yugoslavia v N. Ireland		9.00 JTV	Thurs. 17.6
Group 6 Seville	Brazil v Scotland		9.00 ITV, KY Recorded later in evening	Fri. 18.6
Group 6 Malaga	USSR v New Zealand		9.00 JTV	Sat. 19.6
Group 5 Valencia	Spain v Yugoslavia		9.00	Sun. 20.6
Group 5 Zaragoza	N. Ireland v Honduras		9.00	Mon. 21.6
Group 6 Malaga	USSR v Scotland		9.00 ITV	Tues. 22.6
Group 6 Seville	Brazil v New Zealand		9.00 JTV	Wed. 23.6
Group 5 Zaragoza	Honduras v Yugoslavia		9.00	Thurs. 24.6
Group 5 Valencia	Spain v N. Ireland		9.00 JTV	Fri. 25.6

Third phase...third phase...third phase...

Semi-Finals

Thursday July 8

Barcelona 5.15 — Winner Group A vs. Winner Group C
Seville 9.00 — Winner Group B vs. Winner Group D

Play-Off for Third Place

Saturday July 10
Alicante 8 p.m. — Losing semi-finalists play each other

Sunday, July 11

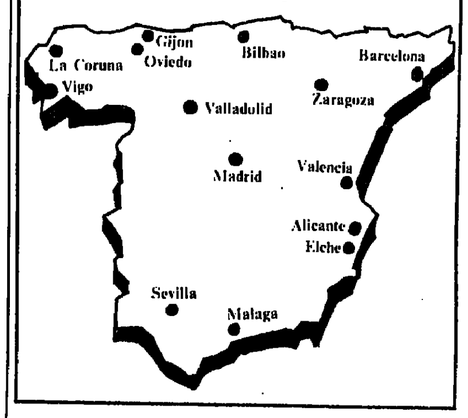
FINAL

Madrid 8 p.m. Winning semi-finalists play each other

GOALSCORING AND ATTENDANCES IN WORLD CUP FINAL ROUNDS

	Matches	Goals (avge per match)	Attendance (avge per match)
1930, Uruguay	18	70 (3.8)	434,500 (24,138)
1934, Italy	17	70 (4.1)	395,000 (23,235)
1938, France	18	84 (4.6)	483,000 (26,833)
1950, Brazil	22	88 (4.0)	1,337,000 (60,772)
1954, Switzerland	26	140 (5.3)	943,000 (36,270)
1958, Sweden	35	126 (3.6)	868,000 (24,800)
1962, Chile	32	89 (2.7)	776,000 (24,250)
1966, England	32	89 (2.7)	1,614,677 (50,458)
1970, Mexico	32	95 (2.9)	1,673,975 (52,311)
1974, West Germany	38	97 (2.5)	1,774,022 (46,684)
1978, Argentina	38	102 (2.6)	1,610,215 (42,374)

SPAIN: World Cup venues



WORLD CUP FINAL SERIES RECORDS 1930-78

(* designates qualifiers for 1982 finals)

	P	W	D	L	F	A
*Brazil	52	33	10	9	119	56
*West Germany	47	28	9	10	110	68
*Italy	36	20	6	10	62	40
Uruguay	29	14	5	10	57	39
*Argentina	29	14	5	10	55	43
*Hungary	26	13	2	11	73	42
Sweden	28	11	6	11	48	46
*England	24	10	6	8	34	28
*Yugoslavia	25	10	5	10	45	34
*USSR	19	10	3	6	30	21
Holland	16	8	3	5	32	19
*Poland	14	9	1	4	27	17
*Austria	18	9	1	8	33	36
*Czechoslovakia	22	8	3	11	32	36
*France	20	8	1	11	43	38
*Chile	18	7	3	8	23	24
*Spain	18	7	3	8	22	25
Switzerland	18	5	2	11	28	44
Portugal	6	5	0	1	17	8
Mexico	24	3	4	17	21	62
*Peru	12	4	1	7	17	25
*Scotland	11	2	4	5	12	21
East Germany	6	2	2	2	5	5
Paraguay	7	2	2	3	12	19
United States	7	3	0	4	12	21
Wales	5	1	3	1	4	4
*Northern Ireland	5	2	1	2	6	10
Rumania	8	2	1	5	12	17
Bulgaria	12	0	4	8	9	29
Tunisia	3	1	1	1	3	2
North Korea	4	1	1	2	5	9
Cuba	3	1	1	1	5	12
*Belgium	9	1	1	7	12	25
Turkey	3	1	0	2	10	11
Israel	3	0	2	1	1	3
Morocco	3	0	1	2	2	6
Australia	3	0	1	2	0	5
Columbia	3	0	1	2	5	11
Iran	3	0	1	2	2	8
Norway	1	0	0	1	1	2
Egypt	1	0	0	1	2	4
Dutch East Indies	1	0	0	1	0	6
*El Salvador	3	0	0	3	0	9
South Korea	2	0	0	2	0	16
Haiti	3	0	0	3	2	14
Zaire	3	0	0	3	0	14
Bolivia	3	0	0	3	0	16

Only six countries have won the World Cup: Brazil (1958, 1962 and 1970), Italy (1934 and 1938), Uruguay (1930 and 1950), West Germany (1954 and 1974), England (1966) and Argentina (1978). Five of those victories have been on home grounds

Algeria, Cameroon, Honduras, Kuwait and New Zealand have never reached the finals before.

ALL THE SEMI FINALS + FINAL RESULTS AND LEADING GOAL-SCORERS IN FINALS TOURNAMENT

1930 (URUGUAY)
SF: Argentina 6, United States 1
Uruguay 6, Yugoslavia 1
F: Uruguay (1) 4, Argentina (2) 2
[Scarone, Argentina, 8]

1934 (ITALY)
SF: Czechoslovakia 3, Germany 1
Italy 1, Austria 0
3 vs 4: Germany 3, Austria 2
F: Italy (0)(1) 2, Czechoslovakia (0)(1) 1 — extra time
[Nejedly, Czechoslovakia, 5]

1938 (FRANCE)
SF: Italy 2, Brazil 1
Hungary 5, Sweden 1
3 vs 4: Brazil 4, Sweden 2
F: Italy (3) 4, Hungary (1) 2
[Leonidas, Brazil 7]

1950 (BRAZIL)
On League system, Uruguay headed Brazil, Sweden and Spain.
Final pool results:
Uruguay 2, Spain 2
Brazil 7, Sweden 1
Uruguay 3, Sweden 2,
Brazil 6, Spain 1
Sweden 3, Spain 1,
Uruguay (0) 2, Brazil (0) 1
[Ademir, Brazil 9]

1954 (SWITZERLAND)
SF: West Germany 6, Austria 1
Hungary 4, Uruguay 2
3 vs 4: Austria 3, Uruguay 1
F: West Germany (2) 3, Hungary (2) 2
[Kocsis, Hungary 11]

1958 (SWEDEN)
SF: Brazil 5, France 2
Sweden 3, West Germany 1
3 vs 4: France 6, West Germany 3
F: Brazil (2) 5, Sweden (1) 2
[Fontaine, France 13 highest record]

1962 (CHILE)
SF: Brazil 4, Chile 2
Czechoslovakia 3, Yugoslavia 1
3 vs 4: Chile 1, Yugoslavia 0
[Jerkovic, Yugoslavia 5]

1966 (ENGLAND)
SF: West Germany 2, USSR 1
England 2, Portugal 1
3 vs 4: Portugal 2, USSR 1
F: England (1)(1) 4, West Germany (1)(2) 2 — extra time
[Eusebio, Portugal 9]

1970 (MEXICO)
SF: Italy 4, West Germany 3
Brazil 3, Uruguay 1
3 vs 4: West Germany 1, Uruguay 0
F: Brazil (1) 4, Italy (1) 1
[Müller, W. Germany 10]

1974 (WEST GERMANY)
3 vs 4: Poland 1, Brazil 0
(Runners-up in two finals groups)
F: West Germany (1) 2, Holland (1) 1
[Latto, Poland 7]

1978 (ARGENTINA)
3 vs 4: Brazil 2, Italy 1
(Runners-up in two finals groups)
F: Argentina (1)(1) 3, Holland (0)(1) 1 — extra time
[Kempes, Argentina 11]

Stars to look for

Karl-Heinz Rumminige (West Germany)

Zico (Brazil)

Kevin Keegan (England)

Gregorz Lato (Poland)

The gladiators

ALGERIA

Algeria are playing in the World Cup finals for the first time. They got through the Africa zone by defeating Nigeria with surprising ease in two play-off games, 2-0 and 2-1. Couched by a Russian, Yevgeni Rogov, the side includes several players who are members of French League teams. The men to watch are back Nordine Kourichi, winger Mustafa Dahleb, and midfielder Lakdar Belloumi, all of whom are capable of sending shocks of dismay through the ranks of far more fancied opponents. London bookies rated the odds against their winning as 5,000/1.

The players: Goalies Mehdi Cerbah, Mourad Amara and Yacine Bentalaa. Backs Mahmoud Guendouz, Mustapha Kouici, Nourredine Kourichi, Chaabane Merzekane, Salah Larbes, Abdelkader Horr and Fawzi Mansouri. Midfielders Ali Bencheikh, Ali Fergani, Tedj Bensaoula, Lakhdar Belloumi, Hocine Yahi, Karim Maroc and Djamel Tlemcani. Wings Rabah Madjer, Salah Assad, Djamel Zidane, Mustapha Dahleb and Abdelmadjid Bourrebou.

ARGENTINA

Argentina, the holders, are playing in the finals for the seventh time. Any team that possesses players of such superlative talents as Mario Kempes, Diego Maradona, Osvaldo Ardiles and Daniel Pasarella must be considered as having a great chance to repeat their 1978 success. Their coach, Cesar Luid Menotti, is perhaps the only man in the world who could jell such individual talents into a smoothly running team; if he succeeds, Argentina should get a lot of goals. Bookies' odds: 5 to 1.

The players — Goalies: Fillol, Bailey, Pompidou. Defenders: Tarantini, Galvan, Olguin, Passarella, Vuntwin, Toraserro, Olertichia. Mid-field: Gallego, Ardiles, Babbas, Hernandez, Valencia, Maradona. Forwards: Bertoni, Kempes, Calderon, Diaz, Santamaria, Chapparo.

AUSTRIA

Austria enjoyed a golden moment in Argentina in 1978 when they beat the highly fancied West German team 3-2. Many of the players who did so well then in Argentina are still in the team, among them Krankl, Schachner, Prohaska and Pezzey. These veterans will provide the nucleus of the team, and much will depend on whether Krankl is still as goal-hungry as he was then. They had a fairly comfortable ride through the early round, finishing second to West Germany, two points above Bulgaria, although five behind their formidable neighbours. Bookies' odds: 50/1 against.

The players: Goalies Friedl Koncilia, Herbert Feurer and Klaus Lindenberger. Defence Bernd Krauss, Herbert Weber, Johann Pregesbauer, Johann Dihanich, Erich Obermayer, Anton Pichler, Gerald Messlender, Josef Degeorgi and Bruno Pezzey. Midfield — Ernst Baumeister, Herbert Prohaski, Reinhold Hintermaier and Roland Hattenberger. Forwards Walter Schachner, Hans Krankl, Kurt Weil, Max Hagmayr, and Gernot Jurtin.

BELGIUM

Seldom have Belgium's prospects of springing a surprise in their sixth World Cup series been so promising. They were runners-up in the 1980 European Championships, and they won their group, a point ahead of France. Their team runs hard and is quick to exploit breaks. The question mark is whether their great midfielder, Wilfried Van Moer, is not getting a bit long in the tooth to match the demands that will be made on his creative talents. Bookies' odds 25/1

The players: Goalies Jean-Marie Pfaff, Jacky Munaron, Theo Custers. Defenders: Eric Gerets, Luc Millecamps, Maurice De Schryver, Michel Renquin, Walter Meeuws, Rene Van der Eycken, Marc Baecke. Midfielders: Wilfried Van Moer, Ludo Coeck, Frank Vercauteren, Marc Millecamps, Rene Verheyen, Gerard Plessers, Guy Van der Smissen, Raymond Mommens. Forwards: Alex Czerniatynski, Erwin Van den Bergh, Jan Ceulemans, Francois Van der Elst.

BRAZIL

The favourites to win the cup. They won it three times — in 1958, 1962 and 1970. Brazil have been in all 12 previous final rounds. They strolled through the qualifying group without conceding a goal. No team in the world can equal the joy that the Brazilians bring to soccer and pass on to spectators, both as individualists and as a team. If Socrates, Junior, Paulo Isidora and Luisinho strike form, few teams will be able to beat them: if Serfinho controls his mood and is as devastating as he was in a pre-Cup game, the Cup is as good as lodged in Rio. Betting: 5/2 favourites.

The players — Goalies: Valder Serez, Paulo Sergio, Carlos Roberto. Defence: Hose Ferrera, Bernardi, Vitzankita, Carlos Ferrera, Junior, Edualo, Edierno, Junninio. Mid-field: Zico, Falcoa, Socrates, Toninio, Sergio, Gurennato. Forwards: Paulo Isidoro, Roberto, Mario Sergio, Eder, Serghinio, Zasergo.

CAMEROONS

Rank outsiders from a country with only 10,000 registered players, of whom little is known — quoted at odds of 2,500 to 1, which are considered generous by pundits. But did not a team of Swedish amateurs thrash Hamburg to take the UEFA Cup a few weeks ago? Why should not the Cameroons rock the boat? Their goalkeeper, Henry N'Kona is a superlative player.

CHILE

They were in the finals in Munich eight years ago, and scored 7 out of a possible 8 points to win their group in the qualifiers, 4 points ahead of Ecuador. They have an outstanding defender in Elias Figuero and a brilliant striker in Carlos Caszely. They may surprise even the strongest of teams. Odds:50/1.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

They have twice been runners-up in the Cup finals. They were lucky to get through to the finals, due to Iceland drawing with Wales, thus enabling the Czechs to squeeze through on goal difference. But they have looked very sharp in pre-Cup friendlies. The team is an ageing one, but, when captain Zdeneh Nehoda clouts the ball, goalkeepers certainly do not consider him sueprannuated by any manner of means. Masny, Panenka and Iurkemik will give him strong support. Odds 25/1.

EL SALVADOR

El Salvador reached the finals in Mexico in 1970. They take their soccer so seriously that they once went to war about a disputed referee's decision. Two potential members of the squad were killed by guerillas in the civil war during the last two years. Their 19-year-old goalkeeper, Guevara Mora, is very good; they have two brilliant strikers, Montaya and Jorge Alberto Gonzalez, known as "El Magico," the superstar of Central America, who can dribble, tackle, clip passes with radar precision, and bend free shots around walls. They have a rugged defender, Osorio. Odds: 5,000/1.

ENGLAND

England, who won the World Cup at home in 1966, scraped through to the finals this time by the skin of their teeth; after losing to Norway, they beat Hungary in Budapest against all expectations, and then Rumania and Switzerland tripped each other up. Since then, however, the English have put their troubles behind them, and have won several important matches. Coach Ron Greenwood and his assistant Don Howe now seem to have their team of many talents working in perfect harmony. All members of the team are well-known in Israel, from appearances on television. On paper, this is as good a team as any in the world. Odds: 14/1.

The players: Goalies: Ray Clemence, Peter Shilton, Joe Corrigan. Defenders: Viv Anderson, Terry Butcher, Steve Foster, Mick Mills, Phil Neal, Kenny Sansom, Phil Thompson. Midfield: Trevor Brooking, Glenn Hoddle, Terry McDermott, Graham Rix, Bryan Robson, Ray Wilkins. Forwards: Steve Coppell, Kevin Keegan, Trevor Francis, Paul Mariner, Peter Withe, Tony Woodcock.

FRANCE

Although France only got through to the finals ahead of Eire by virtue of having a better goal difference, they are still a side that may shock much more fancied teams. They are certainly a delight to watch, especially when Michel Platini, Dominique Rochetau and Didier Six are in full flow. Dour coaches sneer at them as entertainers rather than winners, but they may eat their criticisms when the goals are scored. This is France's eighth appearance in the finals, and they have had some fine wins in the pre-Cup friendlies, including a brilliant 2-0 success against Italy. Platini, in particular, oozed class against the Italians, scored a goal and made the tough Italian defence look like aunt Sallies in a fair. The bookies, who are not impressed by flair, rate them at 25/1.

The players: Goalies: Dominique Baratelli, Jean Castaneda, Jean-Luc Ettori. Defenders: Max Bossis, Gerard Janvion, Christian Lopez, Marius Tresor, Philippe Mahut, Didier Amoros, Dominique Batliston. Midfield: Jean Tigana, Michel Platini, Jean Francois Larios, Bernard Genghini, Alain Giresse, Rene Girard. Forwards: Didier Six, Bruno Bellone, Bernard Lacombe, Dominique Rocheteau, Alain Couriol, Gerard Soler.

HONDURAS

Honduras are making their first appearance in the finals. They won their group, having the same number of points as El Salvador, but having a better goal difference. Several members of the side did very well in the 1979 World Youth Cup, when Jimmy Bailey, their main sharpshooter, was particularly impressive. Supporting him in the attack is Figuerora. In the defence are two of the toughest tacklers in football, Fernardo Bulnes at back and midfield destroyer Ramon Maradiaga, the man they call "El Primitivo," for obvious reasons. Bulnes, the veteran, described by coach Jose La Paz Herrera "an inspiration both on and off the field," is the veteran and rock of the team. He is reported to have a heart of gold under his rugged exterior, to do good deeds and to labour for charities, but on the field his fearsome tackles are feared by all forwards who dare to tangle with him. Odds: 5,000/1.

HUNGARY

Hungary revolutionized soccer some decades ago when they introduced new techniques, tactics and strategy that astonished the world, and still provide the basis for the modern game. They were runners-up in 1934 and 1938, and every few years talk circulates that they are going to revive their ancient glories. This is their eighth appearance in the finals. They headed their group, two points clear of England and Romania, but their games were reminiscent of the little girl with the little curl — when they were good, they were very, very good, but when they were bad, they were horrid. If they reach their highest standard, they should produce fine soccer. In Tibor Nyilasi, Andras Torocsik and Laszlo Fazekas they have three of the most dazzling attackers of the world, but their defence is slow and suspect. Odds: 50/1.

The players:
Goalies: Ferenc Meszaros, Ela Katzirz, Imre Kiss. Defenders: Attila Kerekes, Tibor Rab, Jozsef Varga, Jozsef Csuhay, Gyozo Martos, Laszlo Balint, Imre Garaba, Joszef Toth. Midfielders: Sandor Sallai, Karoly Csapo, Ferenc Csongradi, Tibor Nyilasi, Sandor Muller. Forwards: Bela Bodonyi, Lazar Szentes, Laszlo Fazekas, Andras Torocsik, Laszlo Kiss, Gabor Poloskei.

ITALY

Few teams have as good a record in the finals as that of Italy — winners in 1934 and 1938, runners-up in Mexico in 1970, fourth in Argentina in 1978. This time, their tenth appear in the finals, they qualified by coming second to Yugoslavia, one point behind. Their great problem this year has been their inability to round off movements with goals — for instance, in April, they lost 1-0 to East Germany, although they were awarded 13 corners to the Germans' one. As a result of this weakness, Italian hopes are now pinned almost entirely on Paolo Rossi, of Juventus, a magnificent forward who was banned for two years because of alleged involvement in a bribes scandal. He was only allowed to return to football at the beginning of May. Since then, the 25-year-old striker has been rattling in goals. Italy suffered a severe blow when Rossi's comrade-in-arms up front, Roberto Bottega, was pronounced unfit for Spain. Still anybody who disregards Italy would be very foolish: the defence can be very ferocious. Spain are apparently trying to nobble thesse aggressive opponents: Spanish customs officials barred entry into Madrid of a vast quantity of spaghetti intended for the Italian side. If the backs are weak from hunger, the way to the goal may be opened. The Odds, 10/1, seem to be rather flattering.

The players — Goalies: Zoff, Borone, Galli. Defenders: Skerias, Gentile, Collovati, Cabarini, Viabovot, Shur. Midfield: Baresi, Antonio, Giampiero, Cardelli, Oriali, Dossena. Forwards: Conti, Graciani, Bettega, Rossi, Altobelli, Ferochio, Marochini, Selvaggi.

KUWAIT

A camel dressed in the blue-and-white colours of the Kuwaiti soccer team has been shipped to Spain to emphasize Kuwait's solgan, "Camel Power." Eight jumbo jets will bring 10,000 fans to Madrid. Kuwait got through to the finals by a remarkable series of victories in the Asia and Oceania group, winning all their matches. Their astonishing success is entirely due to their Brazilian coach, Carlos Alberto Parreire, who has taught them the virtues of teamwork and simplicity as an alternative to individualism and fancy footwork. He also trained them in a clever use of the offside rule in defence. Still, they will need more than oil, a camel, combination and enthusiasm to bring down the great teams of the world. Odds 500/1.

NEW ZEALAND

What? New Zealand in the World Cup soccer finals? Surely there must be some printer's error, it must be rugby that we are talking about. But no, soccer has made its way to the islands of the Antipodes, although it remains very much a Cinderella sport down under. Their results show that they are a very determined side, and they played more matches to qualify than any other team, having to beat China in playoffs for second place to Kuwait. They seem to have some of the strongest strikers around, and trounced Fiji 13-0. Their star is their captain, Steve Summer, who collected six against Fiji. Their young manager, John Adsheads, believes that the Kiwis can sing some beautiful songs. Odds: 500/1

NORTHERN IRELAND

Israelis saw Northern Ireland in action during the 1981 qualifying games, as they came second to Scotland in Israel's group. The last time they appeared in the finals was in 1958, when their team included one of soccer's all-time greats, Danny Blanchflower. They have also produced another of the greatest, George Best. Most of the present team play in the English League, although the side includes two players from North American soccer, full-back Jimmy Nicholl of Tornoo Blizzard and midfielder David McCreedy of the Tulsa Roughnecks. Their coach, Billy Bingham, has proved adept at controlling his Irishmen and inspiring them with a strong team spirit, in which he has been ably assisted by the captain, midfielder, Marton O'Neill, who plays for Norwich. With Pat Jennings in goal and artists like Samy McIlroy up front, they may raise the shamrock high in Spain. Odds: 100/1.

The players:
Goalie: Pat Jennings, Jim Platt, George Dunlop. Defenders: Jimmy Nicholl, Chris Nicholl, John McLelland, John O'Neill, Sammy Nelson, Mal Donaghy. Midfielders: Marton O'Neill, Sammy McIlroy, Tom Finney, David McCrery, Tommy Cassidy, Jim Cleary. Forwards: Feliz Healy, Noel Brotherston, John Jameson, Billy Hamilton, Gerry Armstrong, Billy Campbell, Norman Whiteside.

PERU

Peru were surprise qualifiers, by virtue of a shock defeat of Uruguay to win their group. In 1974, they were quarter-finalists in Munich, where they produced some brilliant football. Any team that has such superb strikers as veterans Cubillas and Oblitas can make any defence in the world look like besotted clods, but the defence is rather suspect. Unfortunately, they are without veteran Hector Chumpitaz, who is on the injured list. Goalkeeper Quiroga once rugby-tackled a Polish opponent near the half-way line, so he is worth watching on a television screen. They did well on a recent European tour, beating Hungary and France. Odds: 33/1.

POLAND

Poland cleaned up their group very tidily with four wins out of four against East Germany and Malta. They will be everybody's favourite to win, particularly if they can thrash the U.S.S.R., because of what is happening back there in Warsaw. This is their fourth appearance in the finals: in 1974, they finished third. Their trump cards include their unquestioned leader, midfielder Zbigniew Boniek, recently bought by Juventus of Italy for $1.8m.; Grzegorz Lato, the veteran goal-getter; and Andrzej Szarmach, a forward, all of whom played in previous sides. Lato, now 32, is making his 100th appearance for his country in his third World Cup: he is playing deeper than he did in 1974, when he scored such remarkable goals. The new star rising in the East is Wlodzimierz Smolarek, who scored twice in the crucial qualifier against East Germany. Odds: 20/1.

The players:
Goalies: Jozef Mlynarczyk, Piotr Mowlik, Jacek Kazmierski. Defenders: Zmuda, Piotr Skrobowski, Pawel Janas, Jan Kalocha, Tadeusz Dolny, Marek Dziuba, Stefan Majewski. Midfielders: Zbigniew Boniek, Andrzej Buncol, Wlodzmierz Ciolek, Janusz Kupcewicz, Grzegorz Lato, Waldemar Matysik, Roman Wojcicki. Forwards: Andrzej Iwan, Wlodzimierz Smolarek, Andrzej Szarmach, Andrzej Palasz, Marek Kusto.

SCOTLAND

Oh where, and oh where, can that bonny Scotland be? They seem to be determined to take the low road to the World Cup, where they are appreаring for the fifth time. A team of all the finest talents in the world, on paper they should be almost certain to be way up among the winners. Just look at the list of names below, and think of what these players are achieving in the English and Scottish leagues, and how brilliant they are and weep for the way they play when they get together in the Scottish colours. Remember the trouble they got into in Argentina? Still, Jock Stein may be able to mould them into a side that will be worthy of their individual talents. They certainly won their group, which included Israel, in fine style. Odds: 20/1.

The players:
Goalies: Alan Rough, George Wood, Jim Leighton. Defenders: George Burley, Danny McGrain, Frank Gray, Allan Evans, Alan Hansen, Willie Miller, Alex McLeish, David Narey. Midfielders: Graeme Souness, Asa Hartfoord, Gordon Strachan, John Wark. Forwards: Kenny Dalglish, Joe Jordan, Steve Archibald, Alan Brazil, Paul Sturrock, John Robertson, Davie Provan.

SPAIN

Spain had the least trouble and the most trouble qualifying for the finals — the least because they went through automatically as hosts, the most because they have had to prepare stadia, accommodation, security and a thousand other things to ensure that the games will be played in comfort and style, at a cost of millions of dollars. For a soccer-mad country like Spain, however non-affluent, the expenditure may well prove to be warranted: the host country enjoys an immense advantage, as was proved in 1966, 1974 and 1978, when the winners were all home teams — and Mexico was Brazil's second home in 1970. Juanito Gomez, Jesus Zamora and Jesus Satrusstegui possess creative skills of a high order, as well as a passion for scoring goals. The defence, ranged in front of one of the world's finest goalkeepers, Luis Arconada, is as tough a nut to crack as the rock of Gibraltar, which, of course, Spain claims is theirs. Odds: 7/1.

The players:
Goalies: Luis Arconada, Javier Urriticoechea and Miguel Angel Gonzalez. Backs: Jose Antonio Camacho, Miguel Tendillo, Jose Ramon Alesanco, Rafael Gordillo, Antonio Maceda, Manuel Jimenez and Santiago Urquiaga. Midfielders: Miguel Alonso, Jesus Zamora, Joaquin Alonso, Ricardo Gallego, Jose Vicente Sanchez and Enique Saura. Forwards: Juan "Juanito" Gomez, Jesus Satrustegui, Roberto Lopez Ufarte, Carlos "Santillana" Alonso, Joaquin "Quini" Castro and Pedro Uralde.

USSR

Of all the dark horses, the USSR, making their fifth appearance in the finals, is the one most likely to pop up holding the Cup. They are certainly one of the teams that it is going to be a delight to watch on TV. They are playing fast, imaginative and goal-seeking football, in contrast to the kind of fare provided by their teams in the 'Seventies. Coach Konstantin Beskov has turned the stars of Spartak Moscow, Dinamo Kiev and Dinamo Tibilisi into a smooth, free-flowing team, despite being robbed by injuries of David Kipiani and Vladimir Gutsayev. Keep your eye on Ramaz Shengelia, Oleg Blokhin, Vladimir Bessonov and Leonid Buryak, all of whom move like quicksilver — if they don't get out of your sight, you will be achieving something that many defenders will fail to do. Odds: 12/1.

The players:
Goalies: Rinat Dasayev, Viktor Chanov, Vycheslav Chanov. Defenders: Tengiz Sulakvelidze; Alexander Chivadze; Vagiz Khidiyatullin; Sergei Baltacha; Anatoly Demyanenko; Sergei Borovsky; Oleg Romantzev. Midfielders: Andrei Bal, Vladimir Bessonov, Leonid Buryak, Vitaly Daraselia, Yuri Susloparov, Khoren Oganesyan. Forwards: Yuri Gavrilov, Sergei Rodionov, Ramaz Shengelia, Oleg Blokhin, Vadim Yevtushenko, Sergei Andreyev.

WEST GERMANY

Here come the favourites to win. Winners in 1954 and 1974, and perhaps robbed by a referee of victory in the 1966 final, West Germany have never failed to get past the first round. For decades they have dominated European football, with their combination of all possible soccer skills, both as individuals and as a team. They won all eight qualifying games, scoring 33 goals and only conceding three. Facing Harl-Heinz Rummenige, Paul Breitner, Klaus Fischer and Hans Mueller must be a defence's concept of a descent into the Inferno. But the rest of the team is little inferior to these super-stars. So confident is coach Jupp Derwall that he only named 19 members to his squad, instead of the permitted 22, thinking that three unnecessary reserves would only endanger morale. Odds; 9/2.

The players:
Goalies: Bernd Franke, Elke Immel, Harald Schumacher. Defence: Hans-Peter Briegel, Bernd Foerster, Karl-Heinz Foerster, Wilfried Hannes, Holger Hieronymus, Manfred Kaltz, Uli Stielike. Midfield: Paul Breitner, Wolfgang Dremmler, Stefan Engels, Felix Magath, Loohar Matthaeus, Hans Mueller. Forwards: Thomas Allofs, Klaus Fischer, Horst Hrubesch, Pierre Littbarski, Uwe Reinders, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslavia are making their seventh appearance in the finals: in 1938 they were semi-finalists, and in the Fifties twice quarter-finalists. This time they headed their group with 13 points, one more than Italy. They suffer from the possible disadvantage that more than one-third of the members of the squad play league football in other countries. But their coach, Miljan Miljanic, one of the most experienced managers in Europe, is famous for his ability to express his thoughts clearly and toughly, and for his determination to make talented players bend to his will. One of their oddities is that goalkeeper Dragan Pantelic is a great scorer from the penalty spot. Miljanic will rely mostly on veterans like Surjac and Halihodzic and twins Zoran and Zlatko Vujovic. The twins, who combine with such uncanny skill that they have been accused of using ESP, have been playing together since they were 11. They are credited with being two of the finest sportsmen in soccer, Zlatko having stated, "I detest intentional fouls, whether they are committed by opponents or my own team-mates." They have also imbued the Yugoslav team with great determination.

The players — Goalies: Pantelic, Pudar, Svilar. Defenders: Jerolimov, Zajec, Stojkovic, Krmpotic, Vujovic, Zivkovic, Jovanovic, Hrstic. Mid-field: Gudelj, Petrovic, Sljivo, Jerkovic, Vujovic. Forwards: Susic, Sestic, Deveric, Halihodzic, Surjac, Basic.

THE SAVE THAT WON GERMANY THE CUP — Sepp Maier in the West German goal thwarts Holland and West Germany takes the title 2-1 in the 1974 Munich Final.

Spot the winner

Paul Kohn

TEL AVIV. — The great clash between South American and European football for world soccer supremacy will start with the first kick in the match between 1978 cup-winners Argentina and Belgium in Barcelona today. FIFA, which organized the World Cup programme, contrived to rule out an all South American or European final.

Despite the ongoing political strains, the 1982 World Cup promises to be a glorious month-long soccer festival with a full turn out of all the original 24 countries who won their tickets to Spain. More countries than ever before are competing in the finals, expanded from 16 to 24 teams. Every team will play at least three games, the top four teams each playing seven games — three in the first groups, two in the second phase group, a semi final and then either in the final or in the match for third place.

Not all soccer pundits have welcomed the expanded scope of the finals in which there are teams from such footballing backwards as Cameroon, Honduras, Algeria, Kuwait and El Salvador, whilst former World Cup winners Uruguay and twice-finalists Holland are out.

Brazil and Argentina lead the South American challenge, with star-studded combinations at the disposal of managers Tele Santana and Cesar Menotti.

Brazil are back with what appears a stronger all round team than ever. Instead of Pele, Garrincha, Jairzinho, Rivelino and Tostao, they now have Zico, Socrates, Reinaldo, Isidoro, Eder, Serginho, and the masterful anchorman Cerzoezo — all nicknames. They play that deceptive, slow build-up game, stroking the ball around and then striking suddenly and venemously like a team of vipers. The Brazilians also have a unique talent for exploiting dead ball situations, often scoring goals with long range free kicks.

The Argentinians have brilliant individualists in Deigo Maradona who at his best can almost win a match alone and veterans of 1978 like the deadly marksman Mario Kempes and midfield genius Osvaldo Ardiles (of Tottenham Hotspur fame). The Argentine team has a lot of experience and could well retain the trophy.

Spain and Italy are the "in between" teams, European by Continent, Latin in their style of soccer. Crucially, history has shown home ground advantage to be of enormous value in the World Cup. Five of the 11 tournaments have been won by the host nation. The Spaniards have one of the world's outstanding goalkeepers in Luis Arconada.

Italian players have all the ball skills, yet often flatter to deceive in topnotch competition. They will almost certainly again have their reliable veteran Dino Zoff in goal. The return of Paulo Rossi will add punch up front.

England almost did not make it to the finals. But now that they are in Bilboa theirs will be considered a prize scalp. They have regained confidence and their committed competitiveness ensures that they will be no soft touch for anyone. Manager Ron Greenwood has rare depth in his team with few certain berths, but much high quality talent.

"The Rolls Royce" of the team is Trevor Brooking in midfield, with Glenn Hoddle of Spurs and Bryan Robson likely to play alongside him. Kevin Keegan, if fully fit, has Maradonna-like qualities with his all-round ability and quickness of thought. Graham Rix, Ray Wilkins and Alan Devonshire will also be pressing their claims for midfield places, while in attack Greenwood can choose from Paul Mariner, who has scored some vital goals recently, Trevor Francis and Tony Woodcock.

The England defence has shown a marked tightening up, with Peter Shilton or Ray Clemence in goal. It is their strikers, however, who will have to turn their chances into goals more regularly if they are to retain hopes of winning again the World Cup that was theirs once before — in 1966.

West Germany's powerful "total football," first introduced by the Dutch, won them the European Championships in Rome in 1980.

France play an attractive attacking game, with Michel Platini and the great sweeper, Marius Tresor, sure to catch the eye.

My own long shot for 1982 is Peru. Theirs is a team that plays dazzling attacking football, inspired by 24 year old ball-juggler Cesar Uribe. Peru will also be fielding World Cup veterans Teofilo Cubillas, Cesar Cueto, and Geronimo Barbadillo. They boast a very experienced side which if able to tighten defences, could cause even the best opponents a clutch of headaches.

No World Cup finals, however, have yet been played without great goals, surprises and the emergence of new stars from unexpected quarters. There is no reason to doubt that Spain 1982 will be any different.

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